

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on January 31, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully considered. Reconsideration of the final rejections presented therein is requested for at least the following reasons.

Initially, Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for conducting a telephone Interview with Applicant's Representative on April 20, 2007, in which the language of the independent claims was discussed in relation to the references cited.

In this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1, 7, 8, 9, 12 and 14, 18 and 19, and cancelled claims 13 and 15 without prejudice. Claims 21-23 are added without new matter. Claims 1 and 12 are the independent claims, and claims 1-12, 14 and 16-20 remain pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Claims 1-12, 14 and 16-20 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over the combination of *Dickens* (US 2003/0188049 A1) with *Behrens et al.* (US 6,609,134 B1), and claims 13 and 15 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over the combination of *Dickens* with *Behrens et al.*, further in view of *Hasegawa* (US 2004/0088468 A1). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Dickens shows a KVM switch that may be used both with legacy computers having PS/2 connectors and with more recent models using USB connectors. However, *Dickens* does not show that a cable has a set of computer connectors connected between the computer and the transmitting line comprising a PS/2 connector or a USB connector, as recited in independent claims 1 and 12, or even

that a cable has a combination connector connected between the KVM switch and the transmitting line to transmit keyboard signals, mouse signals, and video signals, as also recited in both claims 1 and 12. Rather, it appears instead that *Dickens* shows separate cables linking each of the keyboard, video and mouse, and that it shows separate cables for PS/2 computers. Further, nor does *Dickens* disclose a signal converting device integrated in any of the connectors and converting between PS/2 and USB, whereas claim 1 recites such a signal converting device in one of the USB connector, the combination connector and the transmitting line to convert PS/2 signals into USB signals, and claim 12 recites a signal converting device in one of the PS/2 connector, the combination connector and the transmitting line to converting USB signals into PS/2 signals.

The Office action admits that *Dickens* fails to disclose either the claimed combination connector or aggregating the separate keyboard, video and mouse cables, and alleges that the signal converting device is described in ¶¶[0049]-[0059] thereof, but *Dickens* does not show a signal converting device integrated in one of the the USB connector, the combination connector and the transmitting line to convert PS/2 signals into USB signals as recited in claim 1 or a signal converting device integrated in one of the PS/2 connector, the combination connector and the transmitting line for converting PS/2 signals into USB signals as recited in claim 12.

Behrens et al., on the other hand, does disclose a KVM cable having a PS/2 connector and a combination connector, but still fails to disclose either a set

of computer connectors comprising a USB connector or a signal converting device converting PS/2 signals into PS/2 signals or USB signals into PS/2 signals (either *integrated* into any of the connectors of the cable or situated anywhere else), and the Office Action does not allege that it does show either of these features (the language of claim 12 is quoted here, but that of claim 1 is substantially similar).

The Office Action asserts that ¶[0043] and FIG. 1 of *Hasegawa* disclose "a connector that converts signals from USB to PS/2 and vicea versa". ¶[0043] of *Hasegawa* reads:

FIG. 1 shows a block diagram for the first embodiment of the present invention. A separate type USB unit 1 comprises a USB connector 3 for connecting the separate type USB unit 1 and an electrical/electronic device 2 integrating a USB connector 8 with a USB cable 9 or the like, an external interface connector 4 having the minimum number of connectors for an external interface selected from various external interfaces such as serial interface, parallel, interface, PS/2, and LAN for connecting the separate type USB unit 1 to a peripheral device 22, a conversion circuit 7 for converting a USB signal into an external interface signal, and expansion connectors 5 and 6 for connecting the separate type USB unit 1 or a separate type USE unit 12 shown in FIG. 2 and another separate type USB unit.

In other words, unit 1 in *Hasegawa* has a conversion circuit 7 therein and has at least a USB connector 3 and an external interface connector 4, which may in turn comprise one or more connectors that may include a PS/2 connector. Thus, *Hasegawa* teaches an adapter with a conversion circuit therein and a USB connector at one end, and that may have a PS/2 connector at the opposite end.

This is in contrast with the present invention, in which the signal converting device is integrated in a connector that terminates a cable, not placed in an

external adapter. That is, the signal converting device is integrated in the USB connector of the set of computer connectors connected between the computer and the transmitting line, or is integrated in the combination connector connecting between the KVM switch and the transmitting line, or is integrated in the transmitting line, as recited in claim 1. Further, the signal converting device is integrated in the PS/2 connector of the set of computer connectors connected between the computer and the transmitting line, or is integrated in the combination connector connecting between the KVM switch and the transmitting line, or is integrated in the transmitting line, as recited in claim 12..

Thus, neither *Dickens* nor *Behrens et al.*, nor *Hasegawa*, whether taken separately or in combination, teach or suggest either a signal converting device integrated in one of the USB connector of the set of computer connectors, the combination connector and the transmitting line to converting PS/2 signals into USB signals, as recited in claim 1, or a signal converting device integrated in one of the PS/2 connector of the set of computer connectors, the combination connector and the transmitting line to converting USB signals into PS/2 signals, as recited in claim 12.

Consequently, independent claims 1 and 12 define over the art of record and are allowable, together with claims 2-11, 14 and 16-20 that depend therefrom.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should the remittance be accidentally missing or insufficient, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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AMENDMENT

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